

^{Charles I}
HIS MAJESTIES
DECLARATION

To all His loving S V B I E C T S,

Occasioned by a false and scandalous Imputation laid upon His Majesty of an Intention of raising or leavying War against His Parliament, and of having raised Force to that end.

A L S O,
His Majesties Declaration and Profession, together with that of the Lords and others of His Council there present, disavowing any Preparations or Intentions of Leavying War against His two Houses of Parliament.



L O N D O N,
Printed for N. Allen. 1642.

DECLARATION

That the following is a true and correct copy of the

Declaration of the Members of the House of Commons
in relation to the subject of the petition presented to
or leaving the House of Commons, and of the
and of the House of Commons.

At a meeting of the Members of the House of Commons
held at the House of Commons on the 1st day of



LONDON:

Printed by J. W. Smith, 10, Abchurch Lane.

His Majesties Declaration to all His loving Subjects, occasioned by a false and scandalous Imputation laid upon His Majestie of an Intention of raising, or leavying War against His Parliament, and of having raised Force to that end.

Published at His Court at York, 16. day of June. 1642.



Though We have these last seven Moneths met with so many severall Encounters of strange and unusuall Declarations, under the Names of both our Houses of Parliament, that we should not be amazed at any new Prodigie of that kinde; And though their last of the 26 of May gave us a fair Warning, that the Contrivers of it, having spent all their Stock of bitter and reproachfull Language upon Vs, We were to expect they should now break out into some bold and disloyall Actions against Vs; And having by that declaration (as far as in them lies) devested Vs of that preeminence and authoritie, which God, the Law, the Custome and Consent of this Nation had placed in Vs, and assumed it to themselves, That they should likewise with expedition put forth the fruits of that supream Power, for the violating and suppressing that power they despised (an effect of which Resolution their wilde Declaration against Our Proclamation concerning the pretended Ordinance for the *Militia*, and the punishing of the Proclaimers appears to be) yet We must confesse, in their last attempt (We speak of the last We know, they may probably since, or at this present have out-done that too) they have out-done what We conceive was their present Intention; And whosoever hears of Propositions and Orders for bringing in of Money or Plate to maintain Horse, Horse-men and Arms for the preservation of the publike Peace, or for the defence of the King, and both Houses of Parliament (such is their Declaration, or what else they please to call it, of the 10 of June) will surely beleve the Peace of this Kingdom to be extreemly shaken, and (at least) the King himself to be consulted with, and privie to these Propositions; But We hope, that when Our good Subjects shall finde that this goodly Pretence of *The defence of the King*, is but a specious Bait to seduce weak and inconsiderate Men into the highest Acts of Disobedience and Disloyaltie against Vs, and of Violence and Destruction upon the Laws and Constitutions of the Kingdom; they will no longer be captivated by an implicite Reverence to the name of *both Houses of Parliament*, but will carefully examine and consider what number of Persons are present, and what Persons are prevalent in those Consultations, and how the Debates are probably managed, from whence such horrid and monstrous Conclusions do result, and will (at least) weigh the Reputation, Wisdom, and Affection of those, who are notoriously known, out of the very herroure of their proceedings, to have withdrawn themselves, or by their skill and violence to be driven from them and their Counsellors.

Whilest their Feares and Jealousies did arise, or were infused into the People from

from discourses of the Rebels in *Ireland*, of skippers at *Rotterdam*, of forces from *Denmarke*, *France* or *Spain* (how improbable and ridiculous soever that bundle of Infurmation appeared to all wise and knowing Men) it is no wonder, if the easinesse to deceive, and the willingness to be deceived did prevaile over many of Our weak Subjects, to believe that the Dangers, which they did not see, might proceed from Causes, which they did not understand: But for them to declare to all the world, *as we intend to make Warre against Our Parliament* (whilest Wee sit still complaining to God Almighty of the injury offered to us, and to the very being of Parliament) and that Wee have already begun actually to leavy Forces both of Horse and Foot (whilest We have onely in a legall way provided a smaller Guard for the security of Our owne Person, so neare a Rebellion at *Hull*; then they have had, without lawfull authority, above these eight Moneths, upon imaginary and impossible dangers) to impose upon Our peoples sense, as well as their understanding, by telling them, We are doing that which they see We are not doing, and intending that they all know (as much as intentions can be known.) We are not intending, is a boldnesse agreeable to no power but the omnipotency of those Votes, whose absolute supremacy hath almost brought confusion upon King and people, and against which no knowledge in matter of Fact, or consent and authority in matter of Law they will endure shall be opposed.

We have upon all occasions with all possible Expressions professed Our fast and unshaken Resolutions for peace; And We doe againe (in the presence of Almighty God Our Maker and Redeemer) assure the world, That We have no more thought of making a Warre against our Parliament, then against our owne Children; That we will maintain and observe the Acts assented to by Vs this Parliament without violation, of which, What for the frequent assembling of Parliaments is one; And that wee have not, nor shall not have any thought of using any Force, unlesse we shall be driven to it for the security of Our person, and for the defence of the Religion, Lawes, and Liberty of the Kingdome, and the just Rights and priviledges of Parliament: And therefore We hope the Malignant party, who have so much despised Our person, and usurped our office, shall not by their specious fraudulent Insinuations prevaile with our good Subjects, to give credit to their wicked Assertions, and so to contribute their power and Assistance for the ruine and destruction of us and themselves.

For our Guard about Our person (which not so much their Example as their Provocation inforced Vs to take) it is knowne it consists of the prime Gentry (in Fortune and Reputation) of this County, and of one Regiment of Our Trained Bands, who have been so farre from offering any Affronts, injuries, or disturbance to any of our good Subjects, that their principall end to prevent such; & so may be security, can be no grievance to our people. That some ill affected persons, or any persons have been employed in other Parts raise Troops under colour of Our Service, or have made large (or any) Offers of Reward and Preferment to such as will come in, is (for ought We know, and as We beleave) an untruth devised by the Cotrivers of this false Rumour; We disavow it, and are confident there will be no need of such Art or Industry to induce Our loving Subjects, when they shall see Vs oppressed, and their Liberties and Lawes confounded, (and till then We shall not call on them) to come in to Vs, & to assist Vs.

For the Delinquents, (whom We are said with a high and forcible hand to protect) let them bee named and their Delinquencie, and if We give not satisfaction to Justice, when We shall have received satisfaction concerning Sir John Horham by his

his legall Triall, then let us be blamed: But if the designe be (as it is well knowne to be) after we have been driven by force from our City of *London*, and kept by force from our Towne of *Hull*; to protect all those who are Delinquents against Vs, and to make all those Delinquents who attend on Vs, or execute Our lawfull Commands; We have great reason to be satisfied in the truth and justice of such Accusation, lest to be Our servant, and to be a Delinquent grow to be Termes so convertible, that in a short time We be left as naked in attendance, as they would have Vs in power, and so compell Vs to bee waited on onely by such whom they shall appoint and allow, and in whose presence We should be more miserable alone, then in desolation it selfe:

And if the seditious Contrivers and Fomenters of this scandall upon Vs shall have (as they have had) the power to mis-lead the major part present of either or both Houses; to make such Orders, and send such Messages and Messengers, as they have lately done, for the apprehension of the great Earles and Barons of *England*, as if they were Rogues or Felons; And whereby persons of Honour and quality are made Delinquents, meerly for attending upon Vs, and upon Our Summons, whilst other men are forbid to come neere us (though obliged by the duty of their places and Oathes) upon Our lawfull Commands; It is no wonder if such Messengers are not very well intreated, and such Orders not obeyed neither can there be a surer and a cunninger way found out to render the Authority of both Houses scorned and vilified, then to assume to themselves (meerly upon the Authority of the name of *Parliament*) a power monstrous to all understandings, and to doe Actions, and to make Orders evidently and demonstrably contrary to all knowne Law and Reason; (as to take up Armes against Vs under colour of defending Vs; To cause Money to be brought in to them, and to forbid our own money to be paid to Vs, or to Our use, under colour that We wil imploy it ill; To beat Vs, and serve Vs for Our owne good, and by Our own power and authority) which must in short time make the greatest Court, and the greatest person cheap, and of no estimation.

Who those sensible Men are of the publike Calamities, of the violations of the privileges of *Parliament*, and the Common Liberty of the Subject, who have been baffled and injured by Malignant men, and Cavaliers about us, we cannot imagine; and if those Cavaliers are so much without the fear of God & Man, & so ready to commit all manner of outrage & violence, as is pretended, Our government ought to be the more esteemed, which hath kept them from doing so; insomuch as We beleieve no person hath cause to complaine of any injury, or of any damage in the least degree, by any man about, or who hath offered his service to Vs: All which being duely considered if the Contrivers of these propositions and Orders had been truly sensible of the obligation which lyes upon them, in honour, conscience, and duty, according to the high trust reposed in them by Vs and Our people, they would not have published such a sense and apprehension of imminent danger, when themselves in their consciences know that the greatest and (indeed) onely danger which threatens this Church and State, the blessed Religion and Liberty of Our people, is in their owne desperate and seditious designe, and would not endeavour upon such weak and groundlesse reasons to seduce Our good Subjects from their affection and Loyalty to Vs, to run themselves into Actions unwarrantable and destructive to the peace and foundation of the Common wealth.

And that all Our loving Subjects may see how causelesse and groundlesse

this scandalous rumour and imputation of *Our raising War upon Our Parliament*, is, We have with this Our Declaration caused to be Printed the Testimony of those Lords, and other persons of Our Councell, who are here with Vs, who being upon the place, could not but discover such our intentions and preparations, and cannot be suspected for their honours and interests to combine in such mischievous and horrid Resolutions: And therefore we straightly charge and command all our loving Subjects upon their Allegiance, and as they will answer the contrary at their perils, That they yeeld no obedience or consent to the said Propositions and Orders, and that they presume not (under any such pretences, or by colour of any such Orders) to raise or leavie any Horse or Men, or to bring in any Money or Plate to such purpose: But if, notwithstanding this cleer Declaration and Evidence of our Intentions, these men (whose designe it is to compell Vs to raise Warre upon our Parliament (which all their skill and malice shall never be able to effect) shall thinke fit by these Alarms to awaken Vs to a more necessary care of the defence of Our Selfe and our people, and shall themselves (under colour of defence) in sounheard of a manner provide (and seduce others to doe so too) to offend Vs, having given Vs so lively Testimony of their affections what they are willing to doe, when they have once made themselves able; All our good Subjects will thinke it necessary to looke to our Selfe: And we doe then excite all our well affected people, according to their oathes of Allegiance and Supremacy, and according to their solomne Vow and Protestation (whereby they are obliged to defend our person, Honour and Estate) to contribute their best assistance to the preparations necessary for the opposing and suppressing of the Traiterous attempts of such wicked and Malignant persons, who would destroy our person, Honour and Estate, and engage the whole Kingdome in a Civill War, to satisfie their owne lawlesse Fury and Ambition, and so rob our good Subjects of the blessed fruit of this present Parliament, which they already in some degree have, and might still reap, (to the abundant satisfaction and joy of the whole Kingdome) if such wicked hands were not ready to ruine all their possession, and frustrate all their hopes.

We doe therefore declare, That whosoever, of what degree or quality soever, shall then upon so urgent and visible necessity of ours, and such an apparant distraction of the Kingdome, (caused and begotten by the malice and contrivance of this Malignant party) bring in to Vs, and our use, ready Money or Plate, or shall underwrite to furnish any number of Horse, Horse-men and Armes for the preservation of the publike peace, the defence of our person, and the vindication of the priviledge and freedome of Parliament, We shall receive it as a most acceptable service, and as a testimony of his singular affection to the Protestant Religion, the Lawes, Liberties and peace of the Kingdome, and shall no longer desire the continuance of that affection, then We shall be ready to justifie and maintaine those with the hazard of our life.

And We doe further Declare, that whosoever shall then bring in any summes of money or plate to assist Vs in this great extremity, shall receive consideration after the Rate of 8l. per Cent. for all such monies as he shall furnish Vs withall, and shall upon the payment of such money to such persons, whom we shall appoint to receive the same, receive security for the same by good lawfull Assistance of such of our Lands, Forests, Parkes, and Houses, as shall be sufficient for the same, and more

more reall security then the name of *Publike Faith* given without Vs and against Vs; as if We were no part of the Publike; And besides We shall alwayes look upon it as a service most affectionately and seasonably performed for the preservation of Vs and the Kingdom: But We shall be much gladder that their submission to those Our Commands, and their desisting from any such Attempt of raising Horse or Men, may ease all Our good Subjects of that Trouble, Charge and Vexation.



His Majesties Declaration and Profession, disavowing any Preparations or Intentions in Him to leave War against His Houses of Parliament.

THere having been many Rumors spread, and Informations given, which may have induced many to believe, That we intend to make War against Our Parliament; Wee professe before God, and declare to all the World, That We alwayes have, and do abhor all such Designes, and desire all Our Nobility and Councell, who are here upon the place, to declare whether they have not been witnesses of Our frequent and earnest Declarations and Professions to this purpose; whether they see any colour of Preparations, or Counsels that might reasonably beget a belief of any such Designe, and whether they be not fully perswaded, that We have no such intention; But that all Our Endeavours (according to our many Professions) tend to the firm and constant settlement of the true Protestant Religion, the just Priviledges of Parliament, the Liberty of the Subject, the Law, Peace and Prosperity of this Kingdom.

Given at Our Court at York this fiftenth of June, 1641.

The

The Declaration and Profession of the Lords and other of His Majesties most Honourable Privie Councell, now present at *York*, disavowing any Preparations or Intentions in His Majestie to leavie War against His *Parliament*.

WE whose Names are underwritten, in Obedience to His Majesties desire, and out of the Dutie which we owe to his Majesties Honour, and to Truth, being hereupon the place, and Witnesses of His Majesties frequent and earnest Declarations and Professions of His abhorring all Designs of making War upon His Parliament, and not seeing any colour of Preparations or Counsels that might reasonably beget the belief of any such Designe, do professe before God, and testifie to all the World, That we are fully perswaded that His Majestie hath no such Intention, but that all His Endeavours tend to the firm and constant settlement of the true Protestant Religion, the full Priviledges of Parliament, the Libertie of the Subject, the Law, Peace and Prosperitie of the Kingdom.

York, June fifteenth, 1642.

Lo. Keeper.
Du. Richmond.
Marq. Meriford.
Lo. Gr. Chamberlain.
Ea. Cumberland.
Ea. Bathe.
Ea. Southampton.
Ea. Dorset.
Ea. Salisbury.
Ea. Northampton.
Ea. Devonshire.
Ea. Cambridge.
Ea. Bristol.
Ea. Clare.
E. Westmerland.
Ea. Barksbire.
Ea. Monmouth.
Ea. Rivers.
Ea. Dever.
Ea. Carnarvon.

Lo. Newport.
Lo. Mombay & Maynour.
Lo. William of Bressay.
Lo. Grey of Ruthin.
Lo. Howard, Andover.
Lo. Newark.
Lo. Poulett.
Lo. Lovelace.
Lo. Rich.
Lo. Savile.
Lo. Mohun.
Lo. Coventrye.
Lo. Dunsmore.
Lo. Seymour.
Lo. Capell.
Lo. Falkland.
Sir Peter Wyche Comptroller.
Mr. Secretary Nicholas.
Mr. Chancellor of the Excheq.
Lo. Chief Justice Banks.

FINIS.